

The Governor's Council on Agricultural Education

Recommendations and Ideas to Consider for
Recruitment and Retention of Teachers of Agriculture in Iowa*
9-16-2014

1. Seek tuition assistance – Shortage area in the state.
2. Appeal for Teacher Education Fees assistance.
3. Appeal to the IAAE Professional Teachers Organization to develop a plan of action to recruit and retain beginning teachers.
4. Appeal to agri-businesses in Iowa to help identify people to go into the teaching profession.
5. Appeal to communities/school districts to identify potential young people to enter the teaching profession.
6. Activate/Promote an alternative route to teacher licensure in agriculture.
7. Develop a mentoring system (with monetary incentives) to encourage young people to consider teaching agriculture.
8. Advocate for high salaries to compete with agri-industry. Encourage extra pay for FFA and SAE components.
9. Advocate for “Summer Contracts” to conduct SAE follow-up and instruction in June and July. Develop a model “summer contract” to do specific activities related to SAE and FFA. Provide a monetary incentive to conduct this “instructional program.”
10. “Ear Mark” state funds for Agricultural Education teachers to conduct specific activities as indicated in above mentioned items.
11. If companies are laying off people in the agriculture sector, encourage these people to seek agriculture teacher education degrees.
12. Seek agri-business funding to accomplish the above mentioned activities.
13. Sell the Sizzle – It’s great to be an Ag Teacher! Describe why! Spread the word. Case Studies, Stories.

* These ideas were identified by The Council during a brainstorming session at the September 16, 2014 meeting of The Council. To be discussed further as a follow-up to that meeting.